

# Frequently Asked Questions about Canonicus Ministries

## FAQ April 2026

### Who is Canonicus Ministries? Are they ABCORI folk or outsiders?

- The Board of Directors of Canonicus Ministries (a corporation recognized by the State of Rhode as a non-profit and granted 501(c)(3) status by the IRS) is composed of 11 persons all of whom are active and members in ABCORI churches.
- Eight of these 11 Directors are also delegates to ABCORI, Inc, appointed by their home church.
- In addition, 100 persons are on our Canonicus Concerned email list and 775 persons on our Facebook page. We are an ABCORI mission force.

### Do they have any money? Enough?

- Canonicus Ministries have raised almost \$600,000, \$60,000+ in cash for operations and \$500,000 in assured pledges toward acquisition and operations.
- This is significant, but is even more poignant considering that these monies are **before** operational control of the property has been acquired and their release is contingent on control. This indicates how eager the donors are to resume life changing ministry on the Canonicus property!
- Canonicus Ministries is in the process of hiring a Capital Campaign firm to help raise additional needed monies after we can demonstrate a legal commitment with the property.

**May 9, 2026 ABCORI Special Meeting; 1-3 pm. Lakewood Baptist Church in Warwick. All Pastors & Delegates. Tell [abcori.org](http://abcori.org) you plan to attend.**

## **How can you guarantee Canonibus Ministries will be successful in the future given the challenges ahead?**

- We understand that the ABCORI region budget is in trouble and that Canonibus also faces capital finance challenges and we believe that camp and conference ministry today is a challenging ministry. However, we have provided examples of effective ministry and balanced budgets in many places. In New England, we have Grotonwood of the ABC of Massachusetts that hit all-time high enrollment the last several years in youth camps and adult and family conferences and had a budget surplus of \$56,319 to reinvest in expanded ministry at the camp (see TABCOM annual report for 2024). Camp Sentinel of the ABC of New Hampshire and Vermont became a separate non-profit from the region in 2006 in part because of deficits creating financial pressure on the region. Today they have doubled their summer camp enrollment, greatly expanded their retreat ministry, and have had a balanced budget every year to deliver life changing ministry.
- The Canonibus Ministries board has over 400 years of combined professional experiences in organizational management as small business owners, ministry leaders, camp directors, realtors, educators, & pastors.
- Success like we are proposing does not just happen. The journey will require dependence on God's provision, talented leadership, and tons of hard work from paid staff and plenty of volunteers.

- Life does not come with many guarantees but it does come with the choice of having vision and purpose and taking on the challenges set before us.

### **Why is Canonicus Ministries asking for ownership, and why isn't just “half” the property enough?**

- Ownership is desired first and foremost in order to be able to raise the necessary funds to resurrect the buildings and programs at Canonicus. Persons and Foundations desire to give on the basis of property ownership. And full control facilitates direct programmatic decision making.
- The ABCORI proposal to lease to a for-profit business (Lumina LLC) dictates Lumina exclusive use and control of the overnight camping area. This area is crucial in ministering to younger persons as the 24 hour onsite experience allows for deeper spiritual connection and potential acceptance of Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior.
- The Lumina proposal projects that over the first four years of operation (2027-2030) ABCORI will receive \$447,000 in revenue (see abcori.org). During that same time period Canonicus Ministries would have provided ABCORI 1.5 million in direct financial benefits. \$100,000 in payments per year in 2026-2030 = \$500,000 plus Canonicus Ministries has taken over \$200,000 per year in property expenses (200K x 5=1 million). ABCORI will still be responsible for those 200K in expenses each year with the Lumina lease. That's a **positive**

**financial swing for ABCORI of 1.5 million** during which camp and conference ministry has been going forward with Canonicus Ministries.

**If the property is sold to Canonicus Ministries, what would be the relationship with churches and ABCORI, Inc.**

- The relationship would be great!!!
- Canonicus Ministries' first focus would be ministering to our ABCORI family: baptism, picnics, camping, retreats, seminars, mission opportunities, etc.
- We are in the process of offering the ABCORI Executive Minister a seat on our board and to ensure we have ABCORI delegates on our Board. Right now, 73% of our Board are ABCORI delegates. We are hopeful that the ABCORI Board would add one Canonicus Ministries director to their Board to increase coordination, mutual programming and good will.
- Canonicus Ministries will create a membership category to be composed of any ABCORI delegates so designated by their respective churches and wanting to serve in this volunteer capacity to assist the ministry (there is much to be done).

**What if Lumina were to use a different part of the property for their 'immersive nighttime walk'?**

- Lumina was asked to explore this option and after consideration continued to advocate for use of the overnight youth camp area, field parking areas, and dining hall use in order to deliver their program.

## Where can I find out the "whole story"?

- We want to share information with you; to listen and respond to your questions.
- We are happy to email and/or mail all the materials we have developed in the quest of resuming a camping and conferencing ministry.
- Anyone can go to our website and explore in great depth: [canonicusministries.org](http://canonicusministries.org)
- \*Canonicus Ministries is also sponsoring some “**open mic**” as in open microphone sessions on Zoom to allow you to ask questions you might have. We encourage you to take advantage of these opportunities: you will need internet access on your phone or computer and then ‘open’ or ‘click-on’ the link provided below or copy it into your browser. At that scheduled time you will be greeted by some happy combination of Canonicus Ministries Board members ready to respond to you or anyone else who has a question or concern.
- Here is the list of meeting times & dates & URL links.
- **April 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm -**  
<https://csun.zoom.us/j/84192455868?pwd=nSoSVRRMwHbdkFn2M0p6pBM4FZv6kr.1>
- **May 2 at 12:00 noon -**  
<https://csun.zoom.us/j/84433345798?pwd=iyl0MZ3uuXz15HjaYcLVHFPGmyuHk.1>
- **May 2 at 6:00 pm –**  
<https://csun.zoom.us/j/84888177910?pwd=QGhoibVX0FxoFDhaXsclvFaiuQxTsc.1>

- **May 4 at 8:00 pm**

<https://csun.zoom.us/j/84846657495?pwd=R4qEMtdhkr7qbshXVAUj8jEAW7oLLx.1>

- **May 6 at 10:00 am**

<https://csun.zoom.us/j/87097849339?pwd=2oNd8aMw0uOxeP5lXE5pxlTjx0sKqE.1>

Visit [www.canonicusministries.org](http://www.canonicusministries.org) for more information.